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Our Ref. No.: 005043P010

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Wei William Wu et al.

Application No.: 09/874,098

Filed: June 4, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS TO
FACILITATE INDEPENDENT
PROTECTION SWITCHING IN A
DISTRIBUTED NETWORK

Examiner: Sam, Phirin

Art Unit: 2661

Confirmation No.: 6034

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

In response to the Office Action dated April 25, 2003, Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments set forth below and consideration of the remarks that follow.